## President's Message.

(Confinued from Third Page.) tion. To a statute which should 'ncorporate all its essential features I should feel bound to give my approval, but whether it would be for the best interests of the public to fix upon an expedient for immediate and extensive application which embraces certain features of the English system but exclude or ignores others of causal importance, may be seriously distinct. of equal importance, may be seriously doubted even by those impressed as I am myself with the grave importance of correcting the evils which are in the present method of appoint-ment. If, for exam le, the English rule which shuts out persons above the age of twenty-five years from a large number of public employ-ments is not to be made an essential part of our system. It is questionable whether the attainment of the highest number of marks at a competitive examination should be the criterion by which all applications for appointment should be put to test, and under similar conditions it may also be questioned whether admission to the service should be strictly limited to its lowest rank. There are very many characteristics which go to make a model cityl service; prominent account. model civil service; prominent among them are probably the industry, good sense, good habits, good temper, patience, order, courtesy, tact, self-reliance manly deference to superior offi-cers, and manly consideration for infectors. The absence of these traits is not supplied by wide knowledge of books or by promptitude in wide knowledge of books or by promptitude in answering questions, or by any other quality likely to be brought to light by competitive examination to make success in such a contest. Therefore an indispensible condition of public employment would very likely result in the practical exclusion of the older applicants even though they might possess qualifications far superior to their younger and more brilliant competitors. These suggestions must not be regarded as evincing any spirit of opposition to the competitive plan which has been to some extent successfully employed already, and which may hereafter vindicate the claims of its carnest supporters, but it ought to be seriously considered whether the application of the same educational standard to persons of mature years as to young men fresh tion of the same educational standard to persons of mature years as to young men fresh from school and college, would not be likely to exalt men of intellectual proficiency above other qualities of equal or greater importance. Another feature of the proposed system is the election by prome ion of all officers of the Government above the lowest grade, except one twenty-four, would fairly be regarded as exponents of the policy of the Executive, and the principles of the dominant party, to afford encouragement to faithful public servants by exciting in their minds the hope of promotion if they are found to merit it. It is much to be desired, but would it be wise to adopt a rule so void as to permit no other mode of supplying the intermediate walks of the servants. There are many persons who fill subordinate positions with great credit, but lack those qualities which are requisite for the higher posts of duty; and, beside, the modes of thought and action of one whose service in a governmental bureau has been long continued, are often so cramped by routine procedure as almost to disquality him from instituting the changes r quired by the public interests. An infusion of new blood from time to time into the middle ranks of the service might be very headful. from time to time into the middle ranks of the service might be very beneficial in its results. The subject under discussi n is one of grave importance; the evils which are complained of cannot be at once eradicated, the work must be

gradual.

The present English system is a growth of years, and was not created by a single stroke of executive or legislative action. Its beginnings are founded in an order in council promulgated in 1855, and it was after patient and closest scrutiny of its workings that afteen years later it took its present shape. Five years after the issuance of the order in council, and at a time when resort had been to competitive examinations as an experiment much more extensively than has been the case in this country, a select committee of the House of Commons made a report to the House which declaring its approval of the competitive method, deprecated, nevertheless, any pre-ipitancy in its general adoption as likely to endanger its ultimate success. During this tentative period the results of the remaining of the remaining the statement. in its general adoption as likely to endanger its ultimate success. During this tentative period the results of the two methods of pass examination and competitive examination were closely watched and compared. It may be that before we confine ownselves upon this important question within the stringent bonds of statutory enactment, we may profitably await the result of further inquiry and experiment the submission of a portion of the nominations to a central board of texaminers selected solely for testing the qualifications of applicants, may, perhaps, without resort to the competitive test, put an end to the mischief which attends the present system of appointments, and it may be feasible system of appointments, and it may be feasible end to the mischlef which attends the present system of appointments, and it may be feasible to vest in such a board a wide discretion, to ascertain the character and atainments of candidates in these particulars which I have all ready referred to as being no less important than mere intellectual requirements. If Congress should deem it advisable at the present session to establish competitive tests for admission to the service, no doubt such as have been suggested shall deter me from giving the measure my earnest support, and I earnestly recommend, should there be a failure to pass any other act upon the subject, then let an appropriation of \$25,000 per year be made for the enforcement of section 1835 of the recised statutes. With the aid thus afforded me, I shall strive to execute the law according to its letter and spirit. I am unwilling, in justice to the present civil servants of the government, to desmiss this subject without declaring my dissent from

enforcement of section 1835 of the revised statutes. With the aid thus afforded me, I shall strive to execute the law according to its letter and spirit. I am unwilling, in justice to the present civil servants of the government, to dismiss this subject without declaring my dissent from the severe and almost indiscriminate censure with which they have recently been assalled. That they are, as a class, 'incolen', inefficient and corrupt is a statement which has been often made and widely credited, but when the extent, variety, delicacy and importance of their duties are considered, the majority of the employes of the government are, in my judgment, deserving of high commendation.

The continuing decline of the merchant marine of the United States is to be greatly deployed, in view of the fact that we furnish so large a proportion of the freights of the commencial world, and that our shipments are steadily and rapidly incre sing. It is cause of surprise that not only is our navigation interest diminishing, but it is less than when our exports and imports were not half so large as now either in bulk or in value. There must be peculiar hindrance to the development of this interest, or the enterprise and energy of American mechanics and capitalists would have kept this country at least abreast of Nourrivals in the friendly contest for ocean supremacy. The substitution of iron for wood and of steam for sail have wrought great revolution in the trade of the world, but these changes could not have been adverse to America if we had given to navigation interests a portion of the aid in protection which have been so wively bestowed upon our manufacturers. I commend the whole subject to the wisdom of Congress, with the suggestion, that no question of greater magnitude or farther reaching importance can engage your attention. In 1875 the Supreme Court of the United States declared unconstitutions the statutes of certain States which imposed upon ship owners or consignees a tax of one dollar and half for each passengers. Sin

upright de artment, connected with it, has be-come a subject of national importance and

come a subject of national importance and should secure prompt altention.

The report of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, herewith transmitted, will inform you fully of the condition of the affairs of the Distsict. The vital importance of legislation for the reclamation and improvement of the marshes, and for the establishment of the harbor, lines along the Potomac river front. It is presented that in their present condition these marshes seriously affect the health of the residents of the adjacent parts of the city, and that they greatly mar the general aspect of the park in which stands the Washington monument. This improvement would add to that park and the park south of the Executive Mansion a large area of valuable land, and would transform what is now helieved to be a dang rous nuisance into an trractive landscape extending to the river front. They recommend the removal of the streets of the cty, and the location of the recessary depois in such places as may be convenient for the public accommodation. They

call attention to the desiciency of water supply hich seriously affects the material prosperity the city, and the health and comfort of its the city, and toe neath and comfort of its unhabitants. I commend these objects to your favorable consideration. The importance of imely legislation, with respect to the ascertainment and declaration of the vote for Presidential electors was sharply called to the attention of the people more than four years ago. It is to be hoped that some well-defined measure with the declaration of the people more than four years ago. may be devised before another hational election, which will render unnecessary a resort to any expedient of a temporary character for the determination of questions upon contested returns; questions which concern the very existence of the government, and the liberties of the people were suggested by the prolonged illues of the late President and his consequent incapacity to perform the functions of his office. It is provided by the second article of the Constitution in the fifth clause of its first section that in case of the removal of the President from office, or of his death by assessmation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of said office, the same shall devolve on the Vice-President. What is the intention of the Constitution in its specification of inability ay be devised before another hational ele he Constitution in its specification of inability

the Vice-President. What is the intention of the Constitution in its specification of inability to discharge the powers and duties of said office is one the contingencies which calls the Vice-President to the exercise of Presidential functions is the irrability to long continued intellectul incapacity, or has it a broader import? What must be its extent and duration! How must its existence be established? Has the President whose inability is the subject of inquiry, any voice in determining whether or not it exists, or is the decision of that momentous and delicate question confined to the Vice-President, or is it contemplated by the Constitution that Congress should constitute the inability, and by what tribunal or authority it should be ascertained? If the inability proves to be temporary in its nature, and during its continuance the Vice-President lawfully exercises the function of the Executive, by what tenure does he hold his office? Does he continue as President the remainder of the four years' term, or would the elected President, if his inability should cease in the interval, be emp wered to resume his office, and if, having such lawful authority, he should exercise it, would the Vice-President be thereupon empowered to resume his powers and duties as President, I cannot doubt that these important questions will receive your carly and thoughtful consideration. Deeply impressed with the gravity of the responsibilities which have so unexpectedly devolved upon me, it will be my constant purpose to co operate with you in such measures

devolved upon me, it will be my constant purpose to co operate with you in such measures as will promote the glory of the country and the prosperity of the people.

[Signed] CHESTER A. ARTHUR.

Americanisms.

conneil Bloffs Normarell. In this land of too much freedom the child is taught that it must distinguish itself. A quiet, useful life, spent in producing something of real value, thereby enhancing its own and the country's welfare, is not sufficient, in the mind of the average American parent. By emotional and soft-pated parents and teachers, children are taught to expect more than I fe can possibly have in store for them. The result of this is, at the age of eighteen years our girls and boys fail to see easy and lucrative employment at their instantaneous command, and a feeling of discontent creeps into their breasts; and crops out in vain endeavor to grasp a fortune with the boy, and to marry one in the case of the girl. Life-long expectations are hard to give up, consequently the boy resolves to live without labor somehow, and the girl decides to marry the first chance she gets which seems to hold out a prospect of release from the restraint of parents, and from the necessity of self-exertion. The boy finds a solution of his life problem so difficult to make pan out in accordance with the "noble philanthropy backed up by the generous donations of a grateful people," that was portrayed by his early tutor, that in many inwhile the girl takes the shorter route

by whi-ky and passion, talks of affinity of souls. The sooner the romantic halo of perpetual bliss business is kicked out o our homes, and school 100m, and our chil dr n taught that life is a constant warfare both with self and the world, and that they must acquire certain sterling qualities of character, which will give them force, to stem the current of opposition, the better. The facts are that we should teach our sons that the man who cultivates brain and muscle enough to aise a bushel of those cereals upon which we subsist, and that with a net profit to himself and those who wield the ax and the sledge to help on the staple industries, are the mest to be envied, (if they have contented minds) of any people on earth. Our daughters hould know that to be able to bake a loaf of good, sweet, nutricious bread, wash a shirt pure and white, keep a house so neat that it is a comfort to stay in it, cook a square mea! so it will seem to the ordinary mortal like a feast, is worth a thousand things who yawn over the latest music, and screech at a

the same port, by marrying some dis-

sipated fool, who, with his brain fired

The curse of strong drink, together be; aims and ambitions born of the devil and fostered by fools; reckless extravagance among the middle classes in trying to keep pace with the wealthy, are fast weakening the race, and plunging us into bankruptcy and idiocy.

An aged, decrepit fisher, of Afric's by the gills to a picket fence while he quenched his thirst at a well hard by. A wicked Caucasian returning home with a very small fish, took down the arge one and hung the small fish in its place and hastily went his way rejoicing while the colored man was eggerly slaking his thirst. When the latter turned to take down his fish, he drew back in astonishment, not unmixed with fear. At last he found speech, and delivered himself as follows: "Dat fish am swunk up powerful bad."

J. W. WHEELING.

A lady told her colored cook to be sure to strain the coffee, and asked ker at table if she had done so. "Yes, missus, I strained de coffee, but I dun had hard work findin' so mefing to strain it wif." "How did you strain it?" inquired the mistress. "Wif you stockin'. missus." "With my stocking?" said the lady, rising from the table in exeitement. "Oh, land a massy, missus. 'twant you clean stockin' " exclaimed the frigetened girl, "it war a dirty one I found behind de dosh."

J. W. WHEELING.

#### The Comptroller's Report. The National Bank System.

Washington, December 2 .- A portion of the report of the comptroller of the currency was given the President to-night. This portion deals with the question of the duties of bank directors and examiners, and on the use of checks try. Regarding the duties of national bank directors, he began by saying that the recent failure of the Mechanics' National Bank at Newark makes the study now. After queting the law, he says the duties of directors are plainly desafety of the funds committed to their serious question whether they are not legally bound to make good the losses which may occur, and it is a question whether they are not also liable for loss subject is not required. If a cashier is placing forged paper among his bills receivable, and transmitting such paper to distant places where it is purported to be valuable, it is not possible in a day or two to unravel this evil work (which may have continued for months) and obtain correct balance sheets. A thorough analyzing and scrutiny of everything would again require one or two weeks. Examinations should be periodically made by a competent committee selected from the board. The small compensation provided by congress does not contemplate the yearly auditing of all the accounts of a bank by an examiner. In many instances the capital of a bank has been found to be impaired and a deficiency has been made good without the knowledge of the general public. In other instances a bank has been obliged to pass its usual dividend, the number of banks passing divdends during the present year being 1,550. These disasters do not show weakness in the banking system, but rather a weakness in human nature. some additional legislation will be required; but there is not so much necessity for additional restorations as there is for increased care upon the part of examiner and increased dilligence and sagacity on the part of the directors and others who are in charge of great trusts. WHAT IS A POLLED ABERDEEN.

We make the following extracts rom an interesting article in the Ag., Gazette (England) discussing this question: Herodotus, in his Fourth Book dedicated to Me'pomene, notes the existence of polled or hornless cattle among the herd of ancient Sey thians. Possibly this is the earliest notice of polled animals of the bovine stances he becomes discouraged and species..... One of the earliest starts on the road to "Hades" instanter, notices of polled cattle in Scotland is made by Hector Boece-educated at ished early in the sixteenth century. Captain Birt, 1725, in one of his noted calves," presented by 50 cows that 'had no horns," in swimming across a ferry. Sir Walter Scott in his Old Mortality (the scene of which, however, is laid about 1670) mentions a "humblecow-the best in the byre," of Niel Blaine. Dr. Norman Macleod in his Reminiscences of a Highland Parish, gives a beautiful legend, the "Spirit of Eild," in which "three dun, hornless figure as the embodiment apparently, of ideal bovine beauty and purity, and it is interesting to note these dual characteristics of the High. lander's "fairy cattle." The last three references must allude to Galoways. which however, it should be noted, were previous to 1750 universally horned

There are six words we are acle-"hummite," "doddie," cowie," "moal," "nat," "poll." We have seen that there are at least three varieties of the first. Dr. Johnson thought it allied to humble (the same,he thought, as its use in that in the stingless 'humble bee"). But Jamieson differs from the great lexicographer, and shows with false theories of what life should it has no affinity, but is derived through "homyl," from a root sygnifying mutil-ation, and allied to "hummelled," as applied to barley.

Any visitor to the Birmingham or Smithfield fat stock show exhibitions at Christmas, or the great London Christmas market at Islington, will not remain in doubt as to "What is a Polled sunny clime, deposited a monster fish Aberdeen?" In the many circles connected with the manufacture of meatof all the now highly wrought beefproducing machines, the Polled Aberdeen is the acme—the very term is the world-wide current superlative of perfection. The Aberdeens, as seen densely lining the rails of Copenhagen Fields, display their characteristics grandly, They have a fine expression of countenance-mild, serene, and expressive Fine in the bone, with clean muzzle; tail like a rat, and not ewe necked; short on the legs; a small, well-put-on head, a prominent eye; a skin not too thick or too thin, covered with fine silky heir to the touch like a lady's glove; a straight-backed, well ribbed up, and well ribbed home; hook bones ot too wide apart-level from the hook to the tail; well set in at the tail-free from patchiness there and all over; deep thighs, with a good purse below them; well fleshed in the fore breast, equal covering of fine flerh all with over his carcass. Such an animal he is that when standing behind you can see all his points at once, and altogether with the appearance of his perfect "meatiness" bursting out his seal-skin, smooth, and glistening covering .-Rural New Yorker.

## DOMESTIC RECIPES.

TO MAKE GINGER LOAF.-To four pounds of dough add one pound of raw sugar, half a pound of butter, one ounce and a half of caraway seeds, one ounce and a half of ground ginger. Bake in the usual way. It very much resembles and drafts in the business of the coun- Scotch hot cress buns. It makes very nice cake, either for tea or lancheon.

PUMPKIN SOUP-For six persons, use three pounds of pumpkin; take off the riad, cut in pieces and put in a sauce of the question especially important just pan with a little salt, and cover with water; let it boil until it is soft-say 20 minutes-and pass through a colender fined and they are responsible for the it must have no water in it, put about three pints of milk in a casserole, add care, and if it is shown that any of them | the strained pumpkin and let it come to had notice of illegal transactions it is a a boil; add a very little white sugar, some salt and pepper; no butter is used.

MOCK BUCKWHEAT CAKES .- WARM one quart skimmed milk to the temperature of new milk, and one teaspoones which may occur from neglect of full dairy salt and three tablespoonfulls duty, even without notice. If this is good lively yeast, thickened to the connot the just and proper construction of sistency of real buckwheat cakes with the present law, then it becomes a ques- Graham meal, in which three small tion for the consideration of Congress handfulls of fine corn meal have been whether additional legislation on this mixed. Very coarse "middlings," such as one gets from country mills, answers quite as well, and no one but an expert would know the difference between the imitation and the real.

SNOW CUSTARD. -- Snow custard is a dainty dish, suitable for desert or for tea. Use half a package of gelatine, three eggs, one pint of sweet milk, two cups of sugar, and the juice of two goodsized lemons. Soak the gelatine in a teacup of cold water; it will need to soak for an hour at least; when it is entirely dissolved add one pint of boiling water and two-thirds of the sugar and lemon juice; let all come to a boil; then take from the stove and pour in the dish in which it is to be carried to the table, or put in a mold to cool. Make a custard of the milk, eggs and the rest of the sugar and 'emon juice. When the gelatine in the mold is ready to serve. put the custard around the base, or cover it entirely with the custard.

PUFF PUDDING .- A delicious pudding. pudding," is made thus: Measure eight en dish and warm it in the oven, then beat the yolks and whites s parately. Take six or soven teacups and butter them well, and fill about two-thirds full of the mixture. Bake in a "quick" oven for twenty minutes. For the sauce have one cup of hot water, six tablespoonfuls of sugar; let this come to a boil, then add one egg, stir constantly, add a piece of butter the size of an egg and flavor with lemon, vanilla or nutmeg. If you prefer a sour sauce add a

tablespoonful of vinegar. allowed to boil up, and afterward left An approaching train releases proportion of one to four oil; but potatoes require a good deal more-in fact. less in any case than three spoonsful of vinegar to four of oil. Those who like the flavor will find thinly sliced onions, either spring or Spa ish, or a very small piece of garlie, finely shred, a great im rovement to the tastiness of the salad.

CREAM SALMON.-Open can and pour off all the fluid. There is some natural oil from the salmon that does not improve by cooking. Fill the can with boiling water, in which a half teaspoonful of salt has been added; set quainted with applied to hornless cat- the can in a vessel containing boiling water so that it will be heated through, shred the fish: to one pound of fish take pint of milk, one eighth of a pound of butter, one tablespoonful of flour; boil the milk. If the flavor of onions is not disagreeable, boil an onion in the milk, in which case strain the milk; rub butter and flour together, put them in hot milk and let it boil until thick; season with pepper and salt. Put in a baking dish a layer of fish, then some of the white sauce; sprinkle this with bread crumbs, and continue in this way until the dish is full, ending with bread crumbs; bake till hot through, and brown on top.

## Treatment of Cows.

Phil. J. Ebersold of the Clarksville Star says on this subject: A heifer coming in at two years old is the best time to develop her future milking qualities, but comfortable quarters, generous feed, regularity in milking and kind treatment, will do much in reartrouble to attain desired results, but we claim that now-a days when cream is rear and improve our dairy cows to the utmost milking capacity. We sold a seven year old cow to-day that was milked for three years past without raising a calf, and she is yet giving eight quarts of milk per day, and had been treated as above stated.

"It's a long way from this world to who stood at his bedside. "Oh, never mind, my dear fellow," answered his THE OLD BROWN SCHOOL HOUSE.

It stood on a bleak country corner, The houses were distant and few A meadow lay back in the distance, Beyond rose the hills to our view.

The reads crossing there at right a igles. Untraversed by pomp and array, Were cropped by the cows in the cumn I've watched them there many a day.

In memory's hall hangs the picture, And years of sad care are between: It hangs with a beautiful gilding, And well do I love it, I ween. It stood on a bleak country corner,

But boyhood's young heart made it warn It glowed in the sunshine of summer, "Twas cheerfull in winter and storm The ten her, O, well I remember, My neart has long kept him a place:

Perhaps by the world he's forgotten, His memory no touch can efface. He met us with smiles on the threshold, And in that rude temple of art He left, with the skill of a workman, His touch on the mind and the heart.

Oh, gay were the sports of the noontide, When winter winds frolleked with snow We laughed at the freaks of the storm king And shouted him all on a-glow. We dashed at his beautiful sculpture, Regardless of all its array,

We plunged in the feathery snow-drifts, And sported the winter away. We sat on the old fashioned benches, Beguiled with our pencil and slate; We thought of the opening future, and

Dreamed of our manhood's estate O! days of my boyhood, I bless ye, While looking from life's busy prime, The treasures are lingering with me, I gathered in life's early time.

O! still to that bleak country corner, Turns my heart in weariness yet; Where leading my gentle young sisters, With youthful comp nions I met. I cast a fond glance o'er the meadow, The bills just behind it I see,

Away in the charm of the distance, Old school house! a blessing on thee. -Rev Dreight Williams

## PRACTICAL SCIENCE.

Ammonia

By means of a newly invented proess, ammonia is manufactured from the nitrogen of the atmosphere and the hydrogen of water. The operation is carried on in a closed brick furnace, having an ash pit closed to regulate the current of air. The deoxodizing million dollars in an old carpet sack so light as to be sometimes called "puff | material used is the dust of steam coal, and, in the presence of this, at a full tablespoonfuls of flour, put it in an earth- red heat, the vapor of water is decomposed, and the hydrogen combines with stir in one part of sweet milk, three well- the nitrogen from the regulated current beaten eggs, one teaspoonful of salt; of air. But ammonia is decomposed at a bright red heat, and, therefore, to prevent loss by accidental excess of temperature, five to eight per cent. of salt me, and I continued: General Sherman is mixed with the coal.

## A New Signal.

They have on one of the New England railroads an automatic air signal which seems to be a marvel in its way if all that is said of it be true. It is an air device, and is operated by the forewheels of the locomotive on every train, the pressure of which causes a POTATO SALAD-The potato s are bellows to project the air through a first put into cold water in their skins, tube in such a way as to give a signal with a good teaspoonful of salt added one third of a mile ahead. No manual to a dozen potatoes. They are then labor on the apparatus is required. to simmer until they are quite tender. mechanism at a station in advance, Aberdeen University, in his work pub. When cold they are peeled and cut up and, when it passes, sets it for the next into rounds as thin as possible, which train. It can be used for giving warnare laid in a dish, well seasoned with ing of the approach of a train at a "Letters," describes the singular salt and pepper; sprinzled with plen-appearance, "like so many Lincolnshire ty of finely chopped parsiev, and then ing a gong, and for giving other signals." ty of finely chopped parsley, and then ing a gong, and for giving other signals. saturated with oil and vinegar. In oth. If it should come into general use, it is er salads, vinegar is used in about the thought it will diminish the number of those accidents in which thoughtless persons lose their lives by attempting an almost e ual quantity of each, not to drive in vehicles across the track at road and street crossings.

Where Does the Water Go?

New York Times. There is abundant evidence that the amount of water on the surface of the earth has been - teadily diminishing for many thousands of years. No one doubts that there was a time when the Caspian sea communicated with the Black sea, and when the Mediterraneau the dollar at the Treasury Department, covered the greater part of the Desemb of Saliara. In fact, geologists tell t that at one period the whole of the earth was covered by water, and the fact .hat continents of dry land now exist is proof that there is less water on our globe now than there was in its infancy. This diminution of our supply of water is -these are the threads of which are going on at the present day at a rate so woven the true happiness or the true rapid as to be clearly appreciable. The rivers and smaller streams of our Atlantic states are visibly smaller than they were twenty five years ago. County brooks in which men now living were a customed to fish and bathe in their boyhood, have in many cases totally disappeared, not through any act of man, but solely in cousequence of the failure of the springs and rain which once fed them. The level of the great lakes is falling year by year. There are many piers on the shores of the lake side cities where vessels once approached with ease, but which now hardly reach to the edge of the water. Harbors are everywhere growing

shallower. This is not due to the gradual deposits of earth brought down by rivers, or of refuse from the city sewers The labor of Toronto has grown shallow in spite of the fact that the bottom ing a fine milker. It may appear to rock has been reached, and all the many that it is taking a great deal of dredging which has been done to the labor of New York will not permanently open it. The growing shallowness worth twelve cents per inch, it pays a good interest for extra labor employed to Albany than it is in the tide water-re gion, and, like the outlet of Lake Champlain, which was once navigable by Indian canoes at all seasons, the upper Hudson is now almost bare of water in many places during the summer. In all other parts of the world there 's the same steady decrease of water in rivers and lakes, and the rainfall in the next," said a dying man to his friend Europe, where scientific observations are made, is manifestl, less than it was friend consolingly, "you'll have it all at a period within man's memory. What is becoming of our water? Ob-

viously it is not disappearing through evaporation for in that case rains would give back whatever water the atmosphere might absorb. We must accept the theory that, like the water of the moon, our water is sinking into the earth's interior.

1 1 Hush Money.

Governor Murray tells a laughable story of his experiences in the Georgia march to the sea, which is worth re-

peating:

"Speaking of the famous march through Georgia," said the Governor, "I never shall forget the amount of money it cost us to keep an old woman from crying herself to death. Of course we were obliged to subsist off the country as we went along, and we naturally took the best in sight. One day we took possession of a chicken ranch kept by an old lady, who stood at the front gate with a broom in her hand and threatened to lick all of Sherman's forces if they did not move on. Now chickens were considered as officer's meat, and as we were infernally hungry, we went for those old hens pretty lively. When she saw that her favorite fowls were being eaught and killed, she keeled right over and began to cry. Presently she began to scream, and finally you could hear that woman's yells clear to Atlanta. I sent the surgeon in to quiet her, but he failed, and then all the officers took turns, but the more attention paid her the more she howled. I then got pretty nervous over the infernal noise, because the whole army would near it, and they might suppose somebody was torturing the women. Finally, Sherman rode up and asked what it was all about, and when we told him, he said: 'Give her a bushel of Confederate bonds for her hens, and see if that won't stop her.' Acting on this hint, I proceeded to business. We had captured a Confederate train the day before, with \$4,000,000 of Confederate money, and I hunted up the train at once. The money was worth about two cents on the dollar. Well, I stuffed about half a

and marched into the house. "'Madam,' said I opening the sack, ·I'll give you \$50,000 to quit this noise.' It was as still as death in a minute, and then her face expanded into a broad smile. I laid the packages of money on the table, and I never saw such a delighted woman. The effect pleased presents his compliments and \$100,000. I never in my life saw such a pleased old woman, and I wound up by dumping the contents of the sack right down on the floor, and telling her that when it came to contributions to distressed females, I could be outdone by no man living.

"She invited the officers to supper, and she cooked every chicken on the ranch and set out ch'er free as water. We were having a pretty good time, when a long, lank old coon came in, ty soon his eye fell on the money. "Sarah,' said he, 'where in blazes did you get all this darned truck?"

"'A present from General Sherman." said she.

". Taint worth a continental cent; they're kindling fires with it down in New Orleans,'

"The old woman rose up, her face as white as your shirt from, and her eye wasn't pleasant to meet. "So you are the bilk that gave me

this, are you?' she called out, reaching for the old broom.

"The entire mess rose and started from the house. We never heard any more of her, and there isn't a man of that crowd who would meet that old woman for all that Confederate money, if it would bring one hundred cents on in Washington."

The thoughts which bring forth actions, the actions which, repeating themselves, become habits, the habits which form character, the character which is built into us and becomes our real selves woe of life and from which they can never be separated.

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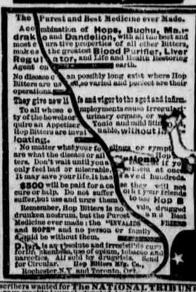


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